Ref 716

TOP SECRET

American Embassy,
Taipei, Taiwan,
February 7, 1955.

Dear Mr. Cheng:

In a memorandum from this Embassy to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated February 2, 1955, reference was made to an Army Communications Reconnaissance Company of about 400 men which would accompany certain Air Force squadrons rotated to Taiwan and which would be used to provide support for Air Force units and for the Seventh Fleet in an emergency situation. Units of the Reconnaissance Company are now ready to proceed to Taiwan. We urgently request ~~possible~~ assurance that there is no objection to these units arriving in Taiwan and that for the time being, pending the conclusion of negotiations now in progress, you would consider these forces to have a status corresponding to that of MAAG personnel. For your information, an advance unit of approximately 100 men is prepared to come here within the next few days.

Sincerely yours,

Richard T. Ewing,
Second Secretary of Embassy.

Mr. Johnson Cheng,
Deputy Director, American Dept.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Taipei.

This handed by me to Cheng on Feb 7 with request for verbal answer if possible today since advance unit waiting to come in (Request made to me by Col Kreidt and Col Schantz). Cheng telephones me at noon (Feb 7) that MND had agreed that Company can start coming in under this.

RTEwing Feb 7, 1955.